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House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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April 26, 2021

BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chair Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Houston Police Department BYRNE Justice Assistance Grants Program in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Houston Texas, located at City Hall, 901 Bagby St, Houston, TX 77002.

The funding would be used to employ nine (9) crime victim advocates. These advocates help the department provide a trauma-informed response for victims of violent crimes by responding to critical incidents and other violent crime scenes when requested by officers.

Advocates employ victim-centered, trauma-informed approaches to address the critical needs of victims: safety, support, information, access, continuity, voice and justice. They inform victims of their rights and leave them with literature that documents these rights. They provide victims information about their cases and how the criminal justice system operates. They provide direct advocacy; emergency safety planning and emergency transportation to shelter; assistance with crime victim compensation applications; information and referrals to community-based organizations; and follow-up to ensure their needs are being addressed.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project."

Sincerely,

Sheila Jackson Lee Member of Congress